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A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

for the

Y E A R E N D I N G

31ST. D E C E M B E R, 1952

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MELTON & BELVOIR RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1952

Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, I deal briefly in this report with matters within my responsibility regarding public health and preventive medicine :-

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	113,025
Registrar General's estimate of population ...	18,680
Number of inhabited houses	5,536
Rateable value	£ 84,842
Sum represented by a penny rate ...	£ 320

VITAL STATISTICS

		<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Births -	Legitimate	164	158	322
	Illegitimate	9	12	21
		<u>173</u>	<u>170</u>	<u>343</u>
Still Births -	Legitimate	1	3	4
	Illegitimate	-	-	-
		<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>

Rate for
District Rate for
England &
Wales

Birth Rate	14.2	15.3
Death Rate	8.9	11.3
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	29.1	27.6

These statistics can be regarded as quite satisfactory.
The Death Rate is very low.

Causes of Death

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	1
Syphilitic disease	1	-
Other Infective and Parasitic diseases	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	8	5
Diabetes	-	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	18
Coronary disease, angina	13	14
Hypertension with heart disease	3	1
Other heart disease	15	18
Other circulatory disease	7	11
Pneumonia	3	4
Bronchitis	6	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	3	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
Congenital malformations	1	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	10
All other accidents	1	1
Suicide	2	3
	<u>90</u>	<u>98</u>
	<u>==</u>	<u>==</u>

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

J. Young, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Camb.)

Medical Officer of Health for the Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Districts in which this District is included.

L. Hesford, Sanitary Inspector

Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute, Sanitary Inspector's Examination Joint Board, Meat Inspector, Smoke Inspector.

W.P. Elliott - Additional Sanitary Inspector.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, Sanitary Inspector's Examination Joint Board.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The following examinations have been carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Leicester :-

Faeces	...	...	...	...	...	8
Throat	...	...	...	...	...	10
Throat & Nose	...	...	...	...	...	17
Sputum	...	...	...	...	...	1
Urine	...	...	...	...	...	10
Blood and Pus	...	...	...	...	...	1
Swab from Pus	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nasal Swab	...	...	...	...	...	1
Blood	...	...	...	...	...	4
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	283
Water	...	...	...	...	...	22
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	7

12 Samples of water were submitted to the Leicester City Health Laboratory for chemical analysis.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1952.

Disease	Total cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths.
Measles	130	-	-
Scarlet Fever	30	18	-
Whooping Cough.	21	-	-
Pneumonia	5	5	5
Dysentery	1	1	-
Poliomyelitis	3	3	-
Erysipelas	2	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	-
Meningococcal Infection.	1	1	-

There was no serious epidemic during the year.

The Scarlet Fever cases were of the milia type which is now prevalent.

There was no case of Diphtheria. It is very gratifying to note the continued absence of this disease among children.

Particulars of the Immunisation work carried out are given at the end of the report. - 2 -

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES (CONTINUED)

AGE GROUPS

Disease	Under 1	1/3	3/5	5/10	10/15	15/25	25/35	35/45	35/65	65 and over
Measles	3	25	39	46	12	-	2	1	-	2
Scarlet Fever	-	3	12	9	4	2	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	11	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	2
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Ophthalmia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Neonatorum	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Tuberculosis

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over 45	-	2	-	-	2	1	-	-

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

Number of samples taken for analysis :-

(a) from wells	...	...	...	...	...	34
(b) from piped supply	...	...	...	...	...	8

Results of samples taken :-

from wells	-	Satisfactory	9
		Unsatisfactory	25
from piped supply	-	Satisfactory	8
		Unsatisfactory	-

Number of wells:

(a) closed	...	...	...	...	...	-
(b) cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	11

Number of cases in which piped supply was substituted for well water 127

Number of Parishes without a piped water supply 4

Number of houses now on piped supply 2,392

Number of Parishes and part Parishes with piped water supply :-

(a) from public mains	...	...	...	...	...	19
(b) from private reservoirs	...	...	...	...	...	4

Sampling of some of the public wells has been carried out.

Existing Water supplies

The Parishes of Ab Kettleby, Asfordby, Broughton and Dalby, Clawson and Harby, Stathern, Waltham (Thorpe Arnold Ward), Eaton (Eastwell Ward), Somerby (part), Burton and Dalby (Burton Ward), Sproxton (Sproxton and Saltby Wards), Gaddesby, Garthorpe, Grimston, Bottesford, Wymondham, Hoby, Knossington (Knossington Ward) and parts of Scalford and Buckminster (Sewstern Ward) are supplied from the Council's Mains.

The Council during the year acquired the Private Supply at Knossington (Knossington Ward) and carried out extensions of the mains.

A scheme in the Parish of Buckminster (to supply part of Sewstern Ward) was also carried out.

Stand pipes are not provided, the services being laid on to the Consumer's premises.

There is no indication of any tendency to plumb solvency.

The Parishes of Belvoir, Buckminster (Buckminster Ward) and some farms and houses in Knossington (Cold Overton Ward), and Croxton Kerrial are supplied by private piped supplies.

The rest of the District is supplied from public and private wells. The majority of the wells are 'shallow wells' of doubtful quality, and in many cases insufficient in quantity during dry periods.

Shortages have been experienced, particularly in Barkestone and Great Dalby, and Waltham and Croxton Kerrial, and it has been necessary to cart water to these villages during the summer and autumn months.

The Council are at present investigating sources of supply with a view to providing a piped water supply throughout the whole of the district.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Number of cesspools in the District at the end of 1952	...	...	...	...	295
Number of cesspools abolished during the year	...	...	...	...	8
Number of cesspools constructed during the year	...	...	...	...	6

There have been no new works of sewage or major improvements to existing works during the year, but in accordance with instructions previously given the necessary ironwork was ordered for a new Sewage Disposal Works at Rotherby, an extension to the existing works at Long Clawson, and a Sewage Ejector for Harby to pump back into the Village Sewer sewage discharging into the Canal. Schemes are being prepared for these works to be carried out as soon as the necessary ironwork is delivered.

Schemes are also being prepared for the Villages of Bottesford, Scalford and Wymondham. As conditions improve in the building and engineering trades, certain other villages will receive consideration as in many cases the need for sewage disposal works is becoming urgently necessary.

Closet Accommodation.

Total Number in the District at the end of 1952 :-

{a) Privies	...	...	...	...	...	351
{b) Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	...	2,938
{c) Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	2,227

Public Cleansing

During the year the Public Cleansing Service has been maintained and efficient service given with a fleet of modern vehicles comprising :-

1 Dennis	11 cu. yd. Refuse Collector
1 S.D.	11 cu. yd. Refuse Collector
1 S.D.	13 cu. yd. Refuse Collector
2 S.D.	Combined Nightsoil and Cesspool Emptiers - 800 gal. capacity

and

1 Dennis Refuse Collector on Salvage work.

Trailers were purchased during the year for the collection of salvaged paper, during normal Refuse Collections.

Household refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping and no difficulty has been experienced here. The disposal of nightsoil is to farms, when it is ploughed into the land as manure. There is at present no difficulty in disposal, and in view of the amount of ploughed land it is not anticipated that this will create a problem for the next year or two. The cost of nightsoil collections however, is continually rising and the Council should, as soon as possible, give serious consideration to the conversion of pail closets to water closets in order to reduce the cost of this service.

The present system of conversion is by voluntary methods and has resulted in the conversion of 42 pail closets to water closets during the year. This has no material influence in reducing the cost of the service, but if it were possible to arrange for the conversion of villages en-bloc a considerable saving would no doubt result.

The collection of salvage was continued during the year and the following weights of salvage were collected :-

45 tons Baled Paper
73 tons Baled Tins.

The revenue produced from this source during the year was £857. 0. Od.

The Council is continuing to empty cesspools on request from the occupiers at a standard charge. There is, however, no collection of the contents of privy middens within the area.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The particulars given under this Heading are for all purposes including particulars given elsewhere in this report:-

Total number of complaints received	... ...	743
Total number of defects or nuisances discovered	... ...	192

	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Re-visits</u>
Animal keeping	3	3
Bakehouses	46	52
Dairies and cowsheds	175	80
Drainage works	247	201
Dwelling houses (all purposes)	1,605	407
Food premises	161	144
Rats and mice destruction	1,341	609
Refuse collection and disposal	359	44
Shops	98	80
Schools	10	7
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	41	30
Verminous premises	12	6
Water supplies	105	48
Workshops, etc.	25	11
Other inspections	48	35
	1,276	1,757

Notices

<u>Preliminary</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Other</u>
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Outstanding on 1st January	nil	nil
Issued during the year	38	17
Complied with during the year	38	17
Statutory action necessary	nil	nil
Outstanding on 31st December	nil	nil

Statutory

Outstanding on 1st January	nil	nil
Issued during the year	8	nil
Complied with during the year	8	nil
Outstanding on 31st December	nil	nil

Shops

Action taken during the year under the Provisions of the Shops Act, 1950 :-

	<u>Outstanding from previous year</u>	<u>Defects found</u>	<u>Defects remedied</u>	<u>Outstanding 31st December</u>
Sanitary Conveniences	nil	7	7	nil
Temperature	nil	1	1	nil
Ventilation	nil	nil	nil	nil

Regulated Buildings

Common Lodging Houses - There are no Common Lodging Houses in the area.

Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc - There are 15 Vans in the District and 26 inspections were made.

These Vans are kept in a reasonably clean condition, several of them being occupied by very good families who are forced by the present housing shortage to take this means of accommodation.

H O U S I N G

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	703
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	746
2. (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932	652
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	652
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	3
4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	116

Remedy of Defects during the Year Without Service of Formal Notice.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	54
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Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

1. (a) Number of dwelling houses overcrowded at the end of the year	231
(b) Number of families dwelling therein	269
(c) Number of persons dwelling therein	1,045.
2. Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year	53
3. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	18
4. Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	83

Provision of New Houses during the Year.

50 New Houses were completed and occupied at the end of 1952. There were about 490 applicants on the Council Housing List at the end of the year, new applications being received almost daily.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

<u>Milk Supply</u>	<u>Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk other than Cowkeepers.</u>
Number on the Register	75
Number of inspections of premises	140
Number of contraventions outstanding from previous year	Nil
Number of contraventions found during the year	7
Number of contraventions remedied during the year	7
Number of contraventions outstanding at 31st December	Nil

Total Contraventions

	<u>Outstanding from previous year</u>	<u>Found during year</u>	<u>Remedied during year</u>	<u>Outstanding 31st Dec.</u>
Cleansing	nil	4	4	nil
Structural alterations	nil	3	3	nil
Utensils	nil	nil	nil	nil
Other	nil	nil	nil	nil

127 samples of milk were taken for bacteriological and biological examination. 120 were satisfactory and 7 unsatisfactory when subjected to the bacteriological test. 122 were satisfactory biologically and Brucella Abortus was found in 5.

No action was necessary under Article 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949.

The Milk (Special Designations) Order

Two supplementary licences have been issued in respect of pasteurised milk. One bottling licence for 'Tuberculin Tested' milk was granted.

Meat and Other Foods

Private Salughter Houses :-

Number of knacker yards in the district	...	1
Number of visits to knacker yards	...	6

Meat Shops, Meat Stores, etc.

Number of inspections	161
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Places Where Food (other than Meat) are kept or prepared for sale.

Number of inspections	185
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NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Section 47. Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention. No action was taken by the Council under this Section during the year.

Arrangements have been made for dealing with any emergency cases which may occur.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN YOUNG

Medical Officer of Health.

10, High Street,
Melton Mowbray.

LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

National Health Service Act, 1946

Section 26 - Diphtheria Immunisation

Melton & Belvoir Rural District

Number of children who were immunised during the period
1st January - 31st December, 1952

<u>Age at 31.12.52.</u> <u>i.e. born in year.</u>	<u>Primary</u> <u>Immunisation</u>	<u>Booster</u> <u>Dose</u>
Under 1 1952	19	-
1 1951	131	-
2 1950	21	-
3 1949	4	-
4 1948	4	11
5 1947	2	73
6 1946	1	28
7 1945	2	8
8 1944	1	3
9 1943	-	1
10 1942	-	-
11 1941	-	-
12 1940	-	2
13 1939	-	1
14 1938	-	-
	175	127

